

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, April 6, 2015. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Barry Cox, Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Lou Sotelo, and John Stauter. Absent: Alderman Chris Schuchard.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, City Management Intern Kevin Smith, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Deputy Fire Chief Mike Dettman, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Tom Brackemeyer was concerned about the crumbling sidewalk in the 400 block of East LeFevre Road with student traffic and activities. Manager Shumard stated that LeFevre Road needs to be rebuilt. He is working with the school to separate the sidewalk from the street, with a boulevard, when this happens.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A) City Council Minutes
  - 1) March 2, 2015
  - 2) March 16, 2015
  - 3) Study Session of March 30, 2015
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$1,130,672.16
- C) Petition for Sterling Kiwanis to hold a bucket brigade on April 18, 2015
- D) Change Order #1 for Hey's Lift Station in the amount of \$75,260.67
- E) Partial Pay Request #2 for the Hey's Lift Station in the amount of \$77,555.04
- F) Petition from Newman High School to Close Oak Grove Avenue between Lynn Boulevard and St. Mary's Road on April 18, 2015 for the Running of Faith 5K
- G) **Resolution #R2015-4-5 to Close Fourth Street** for Municipal Band Concerts
- H) **Resolution #R2015-4-6 to Close Fourth Street** for Public Movies
- I) **Resolution #R2015-4-7 to Close Fourth Street** for Memorial Day Services

The motion was seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Chief Cook introduced Probationary Firefighter Kurt Landis, from Milledgeville. Landis has his Firefighter II Certification and is an EMT. Clerk Rombouts administered the Oath of Office to Landis.

Alderman Elston made a motion to declare April 7, 2015 as National Service Recognition Day; seconded by Alderman Sotelo. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record. Barb Wolcott with the AmeriCorps program spoke on behalf of the

Foster Grandparents Program. The Foster Grandparents program began in Sterling 50 years ago and was the first of its kind.

Planner Dustin Wolff presented Articles 4 and 6 of the Zoning Code. Wolff explained the zoning code is being rewritten to make regulations clearer and less onerous. The current code does not deal with agricultural uses; it will be added in case a tract of land is annexed that is still be utilized for agriculture. Pet care facilities will be added, as well as outdoor uses. Alderman Cox asked about outdoor storage. Wolff explained that outdoor storage shall be limited so as to not impact neighboring properties. Screening can permit more outdoor storage. The code will provide for fair and uniform compliance. Mayor Lee asked about outdoor beer gardens. Wolff explained the code deals with permanent outdoor beer gardens for screening and compliance, but not the liquor portion. Alderman Stauter asked about dumpsters on public right-of-way, specifically on snow routes. Wolff explained that refuse companies should check with the City prior to placement.

Wolff stated that Article 6 deals with good neighbor policies, such as lighting, vibrations, noise, glare, heat, and air pollution.

Alderman Martin made a motion to set the public hearing for the proposed FY 2015-16 Annual Budget during the regular City Council meeting on Monday, April 20, 2015; seconded by Alderman Stauter. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to enter into the Annual Employment Agreement for Gary Cook; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin made a motion enter into the agreement with Dr. Gerald Gabris and Peter Burchard to lead a strategic planning process for the City; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Abstain – Alderman Cox. Motion carried. Manager Shumard stated planning will begin upon signing the contract.

Clerk Rombouts reminded everyone to vote on Tuesday. Alderman Elston was excited about the spring weather with movies and summer concerts to begin soon. Mayor Lee thanked the Plan Commission for their work on the Zoning Code.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.